

Message Text

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14

ACTION FAA-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 /020 W

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P R 291607Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7358

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 7460

STATE FOR FAA ALA-200

DEFENSE FOR JCS/J-5 (MAJ. BLONDELL FOR GEN. NASH)

BRUSSELS FOR FAA AEU-1

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, SP

SUBJECT: SPANISH REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FAA ASSISTANCE

REF: MADRID 7192; MADRID 7244

1. GENERAL CESTEROS CALLED EMBASSY SEPTEMBER 29 WITH REGARD STATUS OF SPANISH REQUEST FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE FROM FAA WITH ATC PROBLEMS. SINCE CESTEROS ELABORATION OF REQUEST APPEARED TO DIFFER SIGNIFICANTLY FROM THAT SPELLED OUT IN MADRID 7192 PLUS REQUEST FOR ONE MAN TO ASSIST WITH TPX-42 REPAIR (RECEIVED SUBSEQUENT TO FAA TEAM MEETING WITH GENERALS MONTEL AND CESTEROS ON SEPTEMBER 20), EMBOFF MET WITH CESTEROS AND HIS DEPUTY, COLONEL MENDOZA, TO CLARIFY MATTER. MENDOZA, WHO WAS PRESENT AT SEPTEMBER 20 FAA TEAM BRIEFING, DISCUSSED REQUEST AT LENGTH WITH EMBOFF AFTER RECEIVING BRIEF INSTRUCTIONS FROM GENERAL CESTEROS.

2. CESTEROS SAID SPANISH REQUEST CONSISTED OF FOLLOWING THREE ELEMENTS: ONE MAN ("OPERATIVA") TO ASSIST WITH REPAIR OF TPX-42 AT MADRID; TWO MEN (OPERATIVA PLUS COM-
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MUNICATIONS SPECIALIST) FOR TWO-FOUR MONTHS ASSISTANCE

AT PARACUELLOS CENTER, MADRID; AN FAA TEAM SIMILAR TO DOWLING GROUP TO STUDY AND EVALUATE ATC SYSTEMS AT BARCELONA AND SEVILLE. EMBOFF POINTED OUT THAT REQUEST FOR ANOTHER FAA STUDY TEAM APPEARED TO BE ENTIRELY NEW ELEMENT, WHICH CESTEROS CONFIRMED. MENDOZA LOOKED OVER LIST OF REQUESTS PRESENTLY PENDING WITH FAA (THREE ITEMS IN PARA 3 MADRID 7192 PLUS ASSISTANCE WITH TPX-42 REPAIR) AND INFORMED EMBOFF THAT FIRST TWO ELEMENTS OF CESTEROS REQUEST COULD PROBABLY FIT WITHIN THESE PROPOSALS. MENDOZA STATED THAT MOST PRESSING REQUIREMENT IS FOR FAA TEAM TO STUDY/EVALUATE BARCELONA AND SEVILLE ATCS. HE ADDED THAT GENERAL MONTEL WAS HOPEFUL POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM FAA COULD BE DELIVERED WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS AND THAT TEAM COULD ARRIVE MADRID WITHIN NEXT WEEK TO TEN DAYS.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH EMBASSY FULLY AWARE OF PROBLEMS FACED BY FAA IN PUTTING TOGETHER GROUP OF SENIOR LEVEL PEOPLE, SUCH AS DOWLING'S TEAM, FOR REQUESTED EVALUATION OF BARCELONA AND SEVILLE, CONTINUED ASSISTANCE IS IMPORTANT TO US FOR SAME REASONS SUPPORTING INITIAL COMMITMENT. POSITIVE RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE WITH TPX-42 WORK, WHICH EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS IS PROBABLE WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS, WOULD BE HELPFUL. HOWEVER, IT APPEARS CLEAR THAT SPANISH CIVIL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION PLACES CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE ON NEED FOR PROMPT EVALUATION OF BARCELONA AND SEVILLE ATC. IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF'S QUESTION AS TO CONTINUING PRESSURE FROM CONTROLLERS, COLONEL MENDOZA STATED THAT PRESSURE NOT ONLY CONTINUING BUT INCREASING.

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